

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IATF DD,RVKEELEY:DMP

APPROVED BY IATF DIR,JVTAFT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CG FORT CHAFFEE ARKANSAS

UNCLAS STATE 299206

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF FORT CHAFFEE

FOR DON MACDONALD FROM JULIA TAFT

1. ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEPARTURE FROM FORT CHAFFEE OF THE LAST INDOCHINESE REFUGEES RESETTLED BY THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE, I WANT TO OFFER YOU MY PROFOUNDEST CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE JOB YOU AND YOUR STAFF HAVE DONE DURING THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS.

2. I KNOW YOU WILL SHARE OUR THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS WITH YOUR ENTIRE STAFF, WITH THE MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO HAVE MANAGED AND SUPPORTED THE CAMP, WITH THE CIVILIANS ON YOUR STAFF REPRESENTING THE SEVERAL AGENCIES WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE TASK FORCE EFFORT, WITH THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WHICH HAVE PROVIDED THE INDISPENSABLE ELEMENT OF THOUSANDS OF SPONSORSHIPS, AND WITH THE HOST OF VOLUNTEERS WHO GAVE THEIR TIME, ENERGY AND TALENT.

3. YOU CAN ALL BE PROUD OF THE HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FORTCHAFFEE RESETTLEMENT CENTER IN HELPING NEARLY FIFTY THOUSAND REFUGEES FROM INDOCHINA START NEW LIVES WITH A

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SENSE OF SELF-RESPECT, WELL-BEING AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.
PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT IS WIDELY KNOWN,
ADMIRED AND PROFOUNDLY APPRECIATED BY EVERYONE ASSOCIATED
WITH THIS PROGRAM.

4. TO YOU PERSONALLY, DON, WE ARE ALL DEEPLY INDEBTED FOR
THE LEADERSHIP, DEDICATION, PERSEVERANCE AND COMPASSION
YOU HAVE CONSISTENTLY SHOWN IN DIRECTING THE FORT
CHAFFEE OPERATION. SINCERELY, JULIA VADALA TAFT. KISSINGER

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